

Crime Victims Compensation

In North Dakota certain people are allowed to receive payment through Crime Victims Compensation. These people include:

- Innocent victims who have been physically or emotionally injured, in a violent crime in North Dakota or where a compensation program is not available, and required medical care.
- North Dakota residents injured by an act of terrorism in a foreign country.
- Dependents of a homicide victim.
- Individuals who pay for a funeral and/or medical expenses of a homicide victim.

To get this payment, a person must report the crime to law enforcement within 96 hours which is four days. The person must file an application within one year of the date they reported the crime to law enforcement. Another condition is that the person must cooperate with the investigation and prosecution of the offender. The person trying to receive payment cannot have been assisting in, or committing, a criminal act causing the injuries.

A person can receive payment for reasonable medical and mental health treatment and prescribed medication. Wage loss, replacement services loss, funeral expenses, and dependent's economic loss are other ways a person can get payment. However, the amount of payment has limits, these limits include:

- Wage loss cannot be more than \$300.00 per week
- Funeral costs are limited to \$5,000.00
- Total recovery cannot be over \$25,000.00

Payment from Crime Victims Compensation only pays for loss that other sources do not provide. You may receive payment from medical insurance, medical assistance, medicare, sick leave or annual leave paid by the employer, social security, workers compensation, or other disability benefits. If a person receives payment from these sources they are only allowed to receive the loss that is left, if any.

Sometimes a person will get recovery from the offender such as restitution or civil suit payment. If restitution is paid and the person has received payment from crime victim's compensation then they must pay this money back. If there is payment from a civil suit they may either have to pay back the payment from crime victim's compensation or if the payment from the civil suit is higher than the victim's economic loss then they may be denied. If a person has a civil suit coming they must inform the crime victim's compensation program in writing.

Lastly, there is no recovery for property loss or damage.

Click <u>here</u> for a Crime Victims Compensation Application.

